

THE GENUS *SOMATIA* SCHINER, II.

(DIPTERA: SOMATHIDAE)

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The genus *Somatia* Schiner is the only genus included in the rather isolated family Somatiidae, which is restricted to the Neotropical Region. In 1958 the family was first found to contain species other than *Somatia aestiva* (Fabricius), when I added two species (Steyskal, 1958). Nelson Papavero added two more species (Papavero, 1964), and I take the opportunity here to add another two species, as well as to present a few notes, before compiling the fascicle on this group for the Catalogue of the Diptera of the Americas South of the United States.

***Somatia papaveroi*, n. sp.**

Female. Length of wing 4.56 mm. Similar to *S. sophiston* Steyskal, as shown in the key below, but differing as follows.

Wing with cell *Sc* largely hyaline, only small area in tip and base near crossvein *h* brown; basal brown fascia complete to hind margin and filling base of anal cell; median fascia in region of fork of *Rs* not developed; cell *R*<sub>2</sub> largely hyaline, brown narrowly along *R*<sub>1</sub> near base and along *C* near tip, the color gradually broadening to fill out tip of cell; brown color in tip of cell *M*<sub>1</sub> broad along *R*<sub>4+5</sub>, but hardly attaining *M*<sub>1</sub>.

Thorax largely yellow, only the following black markings developed. Three longitudinal stripes in presutural area, tapering out before transverse suture, but middle stripe faintly indicated posterad of suture; large lateral scutellar spots, not attaining base, separated by two-thirds of their width, and including wart-like bases of 4 marginal bristles.

Abdomen including postabdomen, largely yellow, only the following black marks present. Pair of rather narrow, arcuate, basilateral marks on tergum 2; pair of round spots dividing width of tergum 3 into 3 equal parts. Narrow, inconspicuous, light brown, oblique stripes are present just within the lateral margins of terga 3-6.

Male. Length of wing 5.2 mm. Similar to female, except that sublateral pre-scutellar mesoscutal black stripes are followed by a round black spot a short distance behind the transverse suture; median stripe also well developed from transverse suture posterad for two-thirds of distance to scutellum; and submedian spots of tergum 3 are small and brown rather than black, but the lateral marks of terga 3-6 are lenticular and black.

Holotype, female, San Esteban, Venezuela, November, 1939 (Pablo Anduze), USNM 69868; allotype, male, Cachicote, Huanuco, Peru, 5 September 1965 (J. C. Hitchcock, Jr.), notebook no. 92, also in U.S. National Museum. It is possible that the allotype represents a distinct species, but in view of the variation in color encountered in other species, I am inclined to consider it conspecific with the Venezuelan

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female. I am gratified to dedicate this species to Nelson Papavero in recognition of his work on this group.

***Somatia schildi*, n. sp.**

Male and female. Length of wing 3.6–4.0 mm, type and allotype largest. As shown in the key below, most similar to *S. aestiva* (Fabricius), differing as follows.

Head with occiput above foramen nearly wholly piceous, yellow only in pair of narrow sutural stripes (in *S. aestiva* this area is largely yellow, with at most 3 well separated piceous spots).

Thorax with mesoscutal marks extending from two-thirds of distance from transverse suture to scutellum or in some cases almost attaining scutellum; pleura with large blackish spot covering most of sternopleuron and pteropleuron and about half of mesopleuron; metanotum (postscutellum, mediotergite) wholly blackish or yellowish with blackish lateral stripes.

Wing with basal brown fascia not extending below *Cu* into base of anal cell; free part of *M*<sub>1</sub> considerable, extending more than halfway from lower corner of discal cell to wing margin (scarcely more than a stub in *S. aestiva*).

Abdomen with black pattern more extensive than in *S. aestiva*; black stripe along posterior edge of tergum 1; black lateral marks of tergum 2 occupying most of tergum and only narrowly separated medially; submedian marks of tergum 3 large, separated from each other by less than their width; submedian marks of tergum 5 lacking (small ones usually present in *S. aestiva*).

Holotype (male) and allotype, La Suiza de Turrialba, Costa Rica, December (Pablo Schild); paratypes: same locality and collector, 2 males and 1 female, March, 1926; 1 male, June, 1926; 1 male, September 1924; one pair, Pedregosa, Costa Rica (D. L. Rounds); USNM 69869, received with the A. L. Melander collection. This species is dedicated to the collector of the largest part of the material, Pablo Schild, in recognition of his extensive material additions to our knowledge of Central American insects.

***Somatia sophiston* Steyskal**

A small series of specimens from Venezuela differs from the type from Guatemala and three additional specimens from Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama, in reduced black marking of the body. The lateral scutellar spots are reduced or even completely lacking and the spots on the abdomen are smaller, the lateral ones virtually absent in the palest specimens. The Venezuelan material, which may be eventually found subspecifically distinct, consists of one female from San Esteban, November, 1939, and two pairs from Valle Seco, Carabobo, January, 1940, all collected by Pablo Anduze and in the U.S. National Museum collections.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF THE GENUS ***Somatia*** SCHINER

- 1 ( 6) Scutellum not wholly black, with pair of black marks separated by median yellow stripe or even wholly yellow; brown median fascia of

wing sometimes developed from *C* to point well behind node of fork of *Rs*.

- 2 ( 3) Sternopleuron with blackish mark; cell *R*<sub>2</sub> hyaline except apically; basal fascia of wing not extending posterad into base of anal cell; scutellum with broad lateral black marks and sometimes black basal margin ..... *S. carrerai* Papavero
- 3 ( 2) Pleura wholly yellow; cell *R*<sub>2</sub> nearly wholly dark brown or largely hyaline; basal brown fascia complete from crossvein *h* to posterior margin; scutellum sometimes wholly yellow.
- 4 ( 5) Cell *R*<sub>2</sub> nearly wholly dark brown; cell *Sc* brown from *h* to end of *Sc*; median fascia developed from end of *Sc* over basal crossvein to *Cu*; scutellum with 6 bristles, including small subbasal pair, and sometimes wholly yellow ..... *S. sophiston* Steyskal
- 5 ( 4) Cell *R*<sub>2</sub> largely hyaline; cell *Sc* mostly hyaline, brown basally near *h* and in tip; scutellum with large black lateral marks including well developed warts at bases of the 4 bristles ..... *S. papaveroi*, n. sp.
- 6 ( 1) Scutellum nearly wholly black, yellow only laterally at extreme base; median wing fascia not developed posterad of fork of *Rs*.
- 7 ( 8) Cell *R*<sub>2</sub> hyaline except at tip; basal brown fascia of wing complete; median black mesoscutal stripe broadened posteriorly and attaining scutellum ..... *S. australis* Steyskal
- 8 ( 7) Cell *R*<sub>2</sub> nearly wholly dark brown; basal fascia complete or not; median mesoscutal stripe attaining scutellum (mesoscutum largely black) or not.
- 9 (10) Thorax, including pleura, mostly black; basal wing fascia not extending into base of anal cell ..... *S. lanei* Papavero
- 10 ( 9) Thorax yellow in considerable part; basal fascia complete or not.
- 11 (12) Basal fascia complete; pair of sublateral black spots on tergum 3 separated from each other by more than width of one of them; metanotum yellow; pleural black spot absent or confined to sternopleuron ..... *S. aestiva* (Fabricius)
- 12 (11) Basal fascia not extending into base of anal cell; sublateral black spots of tergum 3 not separated by more than the width of one of them; metanotum piceous, at least laterally; pleural spot extensive, covering most of sternopleuron and extending into pteropleuron and mesopleuron ..... *S. schildi*, n. sp.

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